

NEWS RELEASE

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Heartland Exports Edge Up, but Growth Eludes Manufacturers. Imports Slip.

KANSAS CITY, MO. (June 12, 2001) – Heartland new export orders showed a slight improvement, but fell well short of growth levels in May. The index for May notched 43.8, up slightly from April's 41.9.

Heartland imports slipped to 48.8, down from April's 49.0.

According to Professor Ernie Goss, Creighton University, who compiles the Heartland International Business Index (HIBI), "this was the fourteenth consecutive month that the reading has been below 50.0. The high value of the dollar and weak economic conditions among trading partners are responsible for the relative weakness of exports."

Missouri had the highest export reading for May at 50.7, followed by Oklahoma at 50.0, Iowa at 47.7, Arkansas at 46.4, North Dakota at 45.5, South Dakota at 42.9, Minnesota at 33.5, Nebraska at 38.8, and Kansas at 33.5.

The HIBI is a product of the Heartland International Business Alliance, and its member-city international trade associations from a nine-state area in the Midwest. It is the only real-time economic indicator of international business trends in the region.

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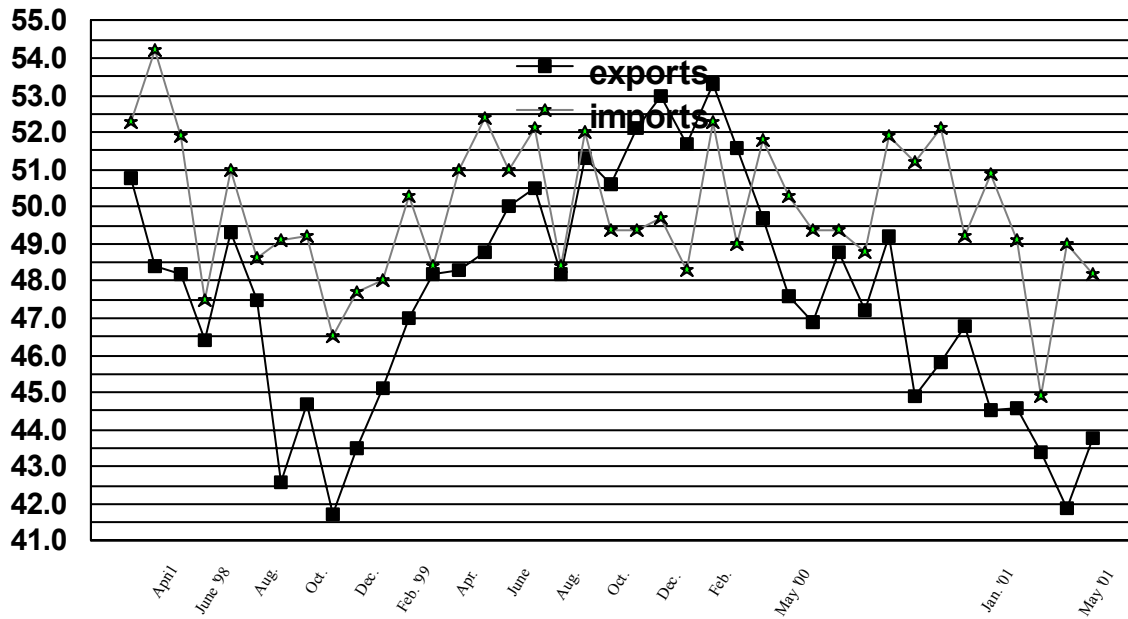
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May 2000 Import Index: 50.3
June 2000 Import Index: 49.4
July 2000 Import Index: 49.4
August 2000 Import Index: 48.8
September 2000 Import Index: 51.9
October 2000 Import Index: 51.2
November 2000 Import Index: 52.1
December 2000 Import Index: 49.2
January 2001 Import Index: 50.9
February 2001 Import Index: 49.1
March 2001 Import Index: 44.9
April 2001 Import Index: 49.0
May 2001 Import Index: 48.8

May 2000 Export Index: 47.6
June 2000 Export Index: 46.9
July 2000 Export Index: 48.8
August 2000 Export Index: 47.2
September 2000 Export Index: 49.2
October 2000 Export Index: 44.9
November 2000 Export Index: 45.8
December 2000 Export Index: 46.8
January 2001 Export Index: 44.5
February 2001 Export Index: 44.6
March 2001 Export Index: 43.4
April 2001 Export Index: 41.9
May 2001 Export Index: 43.8

Heartland International Business Index



Produced in cooperation with Creighton University